In Fig. 8, link 818 has been inserted, and links 822 and 883 have been labeled.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

In page 39, line 18, please replace "230" with --260--.

IN THE CLAIMS

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Please add the following new claims:

--12.(New) An apparatus for facilitating the step-wise migration of a telecommunication network containing a Mobile Services Switching Center (MSC) from a mixed circuit-switched and packet-switched network to an all packet switched network comprising:

an access control server connected to at least one base station, said at least one base station being in wireless communication with at least one mobile station, said at least one base station having a circuit-switched connection to said MSC,

whereby said access control server facilitates packetized communications within said telecommunication network independent of said MSC, said MSC facilitating only circuit-switched communications within said telecommunication network.

13. (New) A method for providing packetized communications within a telecommunication network having a Mobile Services Switching Center (MSC), said method comprising the steps of:

mobile station and at least one base station;

processing, by an access control node within the telecommunication network, said packetized communication, said access control node being connected to said at least one base station to transceive said packetized communication bypassing said MSC.



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14. (New) The telecommunication system according to claim 1, wherein said at least one mobile station comprises a mixture of legacy mobile stations and all-packetized mobile stations.

1 16. (New) The telecommunication system according to claim 15, 2 wherein said PAC contains subscriber profiles for authentication 3 and authorization of packet data.

1 17. (New) The telecommunication system according to claim 2, further comprising:

a home location register (HLR) in communication with said mobile services switching center.



1 18. (New) The telecommunication system according to claim 1 2 further comprising:

a packet data service network (PDSN) in communication with said base transceiver station.

19. (New) The telecommunication system according to claim 18, further comprising:

a home agent unit (HA) and an authorization, authentication, and account unit (AAA) in communication with said PDSN.

20. (New) The telecommunication system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a packet data service network (PDSN) and an authorization, authentication, and accounting unit (AAA) in communication with said access control server.

21. (New) The telecommunication system according to claim 2, further comprising:

a migratory interface to enable synchronization between said access control server and said mobile services switching center.

22. (New) The telecommunication system according to claim 18, wherein said PDSN is in communication with said base transceiver station via a packet control function.

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